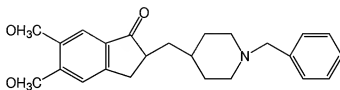


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings of claims in the application:

- 1-12. (Canceled)
13. (Currently amended): A method of protecting neurons of the central nervous system, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of 1-benzyl-4-[(5,6-dimethoxy-1-indanone)-2-yl]methylpiperidine represented by the following chemical formula or a pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof:



wherein the neurons are protected from damage induced by cerebral ischemia, or excitotoxicity, ~~or A $\beta$ -toxicity~~.

- 14-27. (Canceled)